

Claim Amendments

Claims 1-18 (canceled)

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Claim 19 (Currently amended): A method for a host computer communicatively linked to a local area network and a virtual circuit network to handle communications of communicating between a first device on the a local area network and a second device on the a virtual circuit network ~~via a host computer communicatively linked to the first device and the second device~~, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request from the first device for a virtual circuit connection with the second device;

saving an association of ~~the~~ a network address of the first device with the request;

sending the request to the second device;

receiving a virtual circuit response from the second device, wherein the virtual circuit response contains a virtual circuit identification assigned for the virtual circuit connection;

generating, using the virtual circuit identification and the association of the network address of the first device with the request, an association between the virtual circuit identification and the network address of the first device;

saving ~~the~~ an association between the virtual circuit identification and the network address of the with the first device; and

sending the virtual circuit response to the first device.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): The method according to claim 19, wherein the step of saving an association of the network work address of the first device and the request between the virtual circuit identification with the first device further comprises the steps of:

determining the network ~~an~~ address of the first device from the request;

generating a call reference value for the request to identify the first device; and


saving an association between the call reference value ~~with the~~ and the network address of the first device.

Claim 21 (Canceled): The method according to claim 19, wherein the step of saving an association between the virtual circuit identification with the first device comprises the steps of:
determining an address of the first device from the request; and
saving an association between the virtual circuit identification with the address of the first device.

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Claim 22 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of transmitting data between the first device and the second device using the virtual circuit identification.

Claim 23 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 19, wherein the virtual circuit network is an asynchronous transfer mode network.

Claim 24 (Currently amended): A host computer for transmitting data between a first device on a local area network and a second device on a virtual circuit network comprising:
a network program extracting a virtual circuit message from a device message, wherein the virtual circuit message includes a virtual circuit identification assigned to the first device for a virtual circuit connection with the second device;
a call deflector program saving a first association between a network address of the first device and a request by the first device to connect to the second device, and subsequently generating, using the first association and the virtual circuit identification extracted from the virtual circuit message, a second association between the network address of the first device and the virtual circuit identification, an association between the virtual circuit identification and the first device, wherein the second association is usable for communications between the first device and the second device; and
a packet switching program passing data between the first device and the second device based on the association.

 Claim 25 (Currently amended): The host computer according to claim 24 further comprising a call deflector table storing the second association ~~between the virtual circuit identification and the first device.~~


Claim 26 (Previously presented): The host computer according to claim 24 further comprising a bus driver extracting the device message from a bus-specific message, and passing the device message to the network program.

Claim 27 (Currently amended): The host computer according to claim 24, wherein the network program determines the network address ~~an address~~ of the first device from the request device message.

Claim 28 (Currently amended): The host computer according to claim 27, wherein the call deflector generates a call reference value for the request, to identify the first device, and saves an association between the call reference value and ~~with~~ the network address of the first device as the first association.

Claim 29 (Canceled): The host computer according to claim 27, wherein the call deflector saves an association between the virtual circuit identification with the address of the first device.

Claim 30 (Canceled): The host computer according to claim 24, wherein the virtual circuit identification is usable for transmitting data between the first device and the second device.

 Claim 31 (Previously presented): The host computer according to claim 24, wherein the virtual circuit network is an asynchronous transfer mode network.

Claim 32 (Currently ~~amended~~): A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for a host computer communicatively linked to a local area network and a virtual circuit network to handle communications to perform ~~performing~~ steps comprising:

receiving a request from ~~the~~ a first device on the local area network for a virtual circuit connection with ~~a the~~ second device on the virtual circuit network;

saving an association of a network address of the first device with the request;

sending the request to the second device;

receiving a virtual circuit response from the second device, wherein the virtual circuit response contains a virtual circuit identification assigned for the virtual circuit connection;

generating, using the virtual circuit identification and the association of the network address of the first device with the request, an association between the virtual circuit identification and the network address of the first device;

saving ~~the an~~ an association between the virtual circuit identification and the network address of ~~with~~ the first device; and

sending the virtual circuit response to the first device.

Claim 33 (Currently ~~amended~~): The computer medium of claim 32, wherein the step of saving an association between the virtual circuit identification ~~with the~~ and the network address of the first device ~~further~~ comprises the steps of:

determining the network ~~an~~ address of the first device from the request;

generating a call reference value for the request ~~to identify the first device~~; and

saving an association between the call reference value ~~with the~~ and the network address of the first device.

Claim 34 (~~Canceled~~): The computer medium of claim 32, wherein the step of saving an association between the virtual circuit identification with the first device further comprises the steps of:

determining an address of the first device from the request; and

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saving an association between the virtual circuit identification with the address of the first device.

Claim 35 (Previously presented): The computer medium of claim 32 having further computer-executable instructions for performing the step comprising transmitting data between the first device and the second device using the virtual circuit identification.

Claim 36 (Previously presented): The computer medium of claim 32, wherein the virtual circuit network is an asynchronous transfer mode network.

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